

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 1185

By Burchett

A RESOLUTION to honor the memory of Dr. Andrew J. Kozar, Sr.,  
of Knoxville.

WHEREAS, the members of this General Assembly were greatly saddened to learn of the passing of Andrew J. Kozar, Sr., Ph.D.; and

WHEREAS, Andy Kozar was an exemplary public servant and consummate professional who worked assiduously to improve the quality of life for his fellow citizens in numerous capacities; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Kozar was born and raised in St. Michael, Pennsylvania, and moved to Tennessee after receiving a football scholarship to the University of Tennessee at Knoxville in 1948; and

WHEREAS, a blue-chip, all-star athlete, Andy Kozar's athletic prowess and talents became widely known throughout the state. He started as a fullback for three seasons, and his heralded exploits on the football gridiron became the stuff of legend when he was named the Most Outstanding Back for the January 1951 Cotton Bowl, earned All-SEC honors in 1952, was an integral member of the 1951 National Championship Team, and played in the College All-Star Game in 1953; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Kozar was drafted by the Chicago Bears in 1953, but before he could join his new team he was called to active duty with the United States Army. He served with the conviction of a true patriot as an Infantry School Physical Training Instructor and as a Company Commander at Fort Benning, Georgia, for two years; and

WHEREAS, following his military service, Dr. Kozar returned to the Chicago Bears, participating in the 1955 preseason before being traded to the Philadelphia Eagles; and

WHEREAS, deciding to broaden his horizons once again and further his academic pursuits, Andy Kozar attended the University of Michigan on a graduate fellowship and earned his master's and doctoral degrees; and

WHEREAS, an extremely talented and compassionate educator who worked assiduously to motivate his students to reach their full potential, both as scholars and as citizens, Dr. Kozar consistently earned the respect of his fellow teachers and students alike for the exemplary quality of his work as a faculty member at the University of Michigan, Department Head at the University of Tennessee, Executive Assistant to University of Tennessee President Ed Boling, and as a professor in the Exercise Science department of the University of Tennessee; and

WHEREAS, a distinguished fellow in the American College of Sports Medicine, Andy Kozar was the author of several books, including *Beginning Paddleball*; *Racquetball*; *R. Tait McKenzie, the Sculptor of Athletes*; and *Football as a War Game: The Annotated Journals of General R.R. Neyland*, and his articles have appeared in a variety of prestigious publications, including *Aethlon*, *Proceedings of the National Sports Medicine Conference*, *Sport in Art from American Museums*, *The Thomas Wolfe Review*, *Journal of Sports Medicine and Physical Fitness*, and *The Research Quarterly*; and

WHEREAS, no stranger to honors and accolades, Dr. Kozar was inducted into the Cotton Bowl Hall of Fame in 2005, was awarded the All-American Legends Award by the All-American Football Foundation in 2002, gained induction into Knoxville Sports Hall of Fame in 1989, was elected to the Tennessee Sports Hall of Fame in 1979, and was honored with the NCAA Silver Anniversary Award in 1978; and

WHEREAS, a man of deep and abiding faith, Dr. Kozar was an active and devout member of Sacred Heart Cathedral; and

WHEREAS, Andy Kozar was also deeply devoted to his family, and he always endeavored to remain true to family values of the highest order; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Kozar enjoyed the loving companionship of his wife of fifty-five years, Marian V. Higgs Kozar, and he is further survived by his son and daughter-in-law, Andrew J. Kozar, Jr., and Jamie B. Kozar; his daughter and son-in-law, Mary Anne Kozar and John Wilkerson; his daughter, Amy E. Kozar; his grandchildren, Andrew Louis Wilkerson and Maria Jenai Kozar; his brother and sister-in-law, Frank and Marty Kozar; his sister, Mary Dipko; and a host of friends, family, and loved ones; and

WHEREAS, Andrew Kozar was preceded in death by his parents, Frank M. and Barbara Bede Kozar; his brothers, Paul, Steve, and Evan Kozar; and his sister, Barbara Kozar Workosky; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Kozar leaves behind an indelible legacy of integrity and probity in public life, compassion and loyalty in private life, and diligence and dedication in all his chosen endeavors; and

WHEREAS, it is fitting that this General Assembly should pause to remember the bountiful life of this exceptional public servant and human being; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED SIXTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we honor the memory of Dr. Andrew J. Kozar, Sr., reflecting fondly upon his impeccable character and his stalwart commitment to living the examined life with courage and conviction.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we express our sympathy and offer our condolences to the family of Dr. Kozar.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.